

Navy Medicine Oral History Project
Oral History Interview Synopsis
Patrick J. Nardulli, HMC, Ret.
Military Training Specialist
Naval Center for Combat and Operational Stress Control, San
Diego, California

Date and Location of Interview: 6 June 2013, San Diego, CA
Interviewer: COL Richard Ginn, Ret., USA, Office of Medical
History, BUMED

SYNOPSIS

HMC Nardulli, the son of Patrick, a truck driver, and Diane Ricko Nardulli, a housewife, was born on 17 April 1970 in Melrose Park, Illinois. He grew up in a predominately Italian neighborhood, and graduated West Leyden High School in 1988 where he was active in sports, including football, gymnastics and diving. He briefly attended Triton College and then Illinois State University, but his grades were not up to par, and he returned home in 1990. However, at that point the U.S. responded to Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, and motivated by the call to arms as well as a popular movie, *Navy SEALs* (Orion, 1990), he and a friend decided to join the Navy and become Navy SEALs.

He enlisted in September 1990, and completed boot camp and Hospital Corpsman "A" School at the Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Illinois. A football knee injury prevented him from qualifying for SEAL training, and upon the advice of his father he asked for duty in California. He was sent to the Field Medical Service School to qualify for service as a corpsman with the Marines. However an assignment with Marine Recon did not materialize, and he was assigned to the Naval Medical Center, San Diego (NMCS) where he was a hospital corpsman in the outpatient clinics from 1991-1993. While there, upon the advice of a senior surgeon he completed the Surgical Technician "C" School.

HMC Nardulli's next duty was as a corpsman aboard the amphibious assault ship, USS *Tarawa* (LHA-11), then assignment back to NMCS, this time as a surgical technician. This was followed by successive assignments with the Marines, initially with the 1st Medical Battalion, 1st Force Service Support Group at Camp Pendleton, which including included a deployment to Iraq, and then as Leading Petty Officer of the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego. His final assignment was with the 16th Marine Aircraft Group at Miramar, CA, where he retired in 2009. He is married to Claudia Nardulli, and they have a daughter, Nicloette Angelina.

While on active duty, HMC Nardulli completed a bachelor's degree in health care management. Following retirement he was recruited by NCCOSC, and at the time of this interview was

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serving as a military training specialist focused on COSC programs for the Navy and Marine Corps. He describes his current position as the chance "to open up the opportunities to build the team relationships within the Navy/Marine Corps entity." In summary, he is proud to contribute to the NCCOSC mission, "I just know everything that I'm doing here matters."

KEY WORDS

Boot camp
Combat and Operational Stress Control (COSC)
Corpsman duty aboard ship
Corpsman duty with the Marines
COSC Training
Field Medical Service School
Mobile Care Team
Navy Center for Combat and Operational Stress Control (NCCOSC)
Navy Medicine
Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF)
Special needs children in the military
Surgical Technician

KEY FIGURES

Campbell, Justin S., Ph.D., LCDR MSC, USN, in 2010 Senior Analyst, Office of Deployed Mental Health, BUMED, Washington, D.C.
Jarvis, Bart, Ph.D., clinical psychologist, Head, Programs Division, NCCOSC
Koffman, Robert L., M.D., CAPT, MC, USN; in 2010 Deputy Director for Clinical Operations, National Intrepid Center of Excellence, Bethesda, MD.